News Release

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VIDEO: Experts Address Parents' Questions About COVID-19 Vaccines

Panel includes Dr. Richard Carmona, 17th U.S. Surgeon General

PHOENIX — It's understandable that many parents have questions about getting their children vaccinated against COVID-19. That's why the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) has produced a video with experts addressing these questions, including pointed ones.

Available at <u>azhealth.gov/TownHalls</u> in English, and in English with Spanish subtitles, the 30-minute video features:

- Dr. Richard Carmona, 17th U.S. Surgeon General and Special Adviser to Governor Doug Ducey on public health emergency preparedness;
- Jessica Rigler, ADHS Assistant Director for Public Health Preparedness; and
- Dr. Sean P. Elliott, a Tucson Medical Center physician specializing in pediatric infectious diseases.

Questions from parents range from why children should be vaccinated if they aren't considered at high risk from COVID-19 to concerns about child development to social media posts alleging harmful effects from COVID-19 vaccines.

Don Herrington, interim director of ADHS, recently published a blog post inviting parents to send questions for the video. ADHS also included questions commonly shared via the agency's Twitter and Facebook accounts and by journalists.

"I'm pleased that parents took the time to share questions that reflect their intense dedication to their children's health," Herrington said. "These esteemed voices on public health and medicine drive home the message that there is abundant reason to get children vaccinated against COVID-19 and that the vaccine is safe and highly effective for young kids and adolescents."

To see the video, which includes an option to go straight to questions of greatest interest to each viewer, please visit <u>azhealth.gov/TownHalls</u>. Media outlets wishing to embed the video can do so from this page. They also are welcome to request a download link for a high-resolution version of the video.

For more information on COVID-19 vaccines, please visit <u>azhealth.gov/COVID19Vaccines</u>. To find a vaccine provider, including one offering the pediatric dose for ages 5 to 11, please visit <u>azhealth.gov/FindVaccine</u>.